NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

Weekly Staff Newsletter
October 23, 1998

Know Your Museum!!!

We don't all know the Museum as well as we might—or as well as we could!

Here's a chance to learn the stories behind the fascinating and unique objects that usually get just a glance as we walk by! (And to learn just what we tell the public about this place.)

Tour the Museum with your specially trained tour guide during . . .

Highlights of The Field Museum Staff and Volunteer Tours

Four weeks of tours beginning Monday, October 26—no two are exactly alike!!

Tours will be given Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. and noon. Meet by the Totem Poles in Stanley Field Hall.

Field Museum neg. no. CSGN48823

FIELD NOTES

Week of October 26

Public Events/Special Events

Celebracion continues
- Monday and Tuesday

National Geographic event
- Tuesday evening in SFH

Anti-Defamation League event (800)
- Wednesday evening in SFH

Chicago Herpetological Society
- Wednesday, 6 p.m. in LH1

Museology Class
- Thursday, 12:30 p.m. in Clrm B

Columbia College Teacher Workshop
- Thursday, 4:30 p.m. in Clrm C

Bon Appetit event (2,000)
- Friday evening in SFH

Halloween Fest
- Saturday, 11 a.m. in SFH

Staff/Volunteer Events

Tuesday Noon Lecture Series
- Zoology Classroom

Web Site Discussions
- Tuesday and Thursday
- Intranet 1-2, Web site 2-3 p.m.
- Zoology Classroom

Aerobics Class
- Tuesday and Thursday, 5 p.m.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Welcome to new staff member

The Education Department extends a warm welcome to **Jennifer Browning Skosey**, who has been hired to manage the educational programs that will accompany the *Underground Adventure* exhibit.

A native of Chicago, Jennifer has been working in the field of environmental education for more than eight years and has developed environmental education programs for such institutions as the Lincoln Park Zoo, the Chicago Academy of Sciences, and the North Park Village Nature Center. With such great experience, Jennifer is a valuable addition to our staff.

Thanks to teamwork, Opening Day festivities a smashing success!

Because of the careful and imaginative planning of **Sue Stott**, Museum visitors were treated to Swedish folk music, dancing, storytelling, and arts and crafts demonstrations as they celebrated the opening of *Swedish Folk Art: All Tradition Is Change* this past Saturday.

Of course, Sue did not plan the Opening Day events by herself. Without the collaboration and assistance of many others, the event would not have been the success it was. A huge thank you thus goes out to: **Nicole Royal**, **Kathleen Donofrio**, **Beth Crownover**, **Paula Ramos**, **Mary Ann Bloom**, and **Kristie Webber** in Education; **Mia Schillace**, **Lori Walsh**, **Eric Lindveit**, **Scott Smith**, and **John Zehren** in Exhibits; the entire Woodshop staff; **Carolyn Byrne** and **Laura Dini** in Public Relations; **Ernst Pierre-Toussaint**, **Sheldon Moy**, and **Michael Shouba** in Maintenance; **Floyd Bluntson** and **Javier Quezada** in Engineering; **Bob Cazy** and **Ron Hall** in A/V; **Paula Robinson** in Accounting; and the entire Housekeeping, Visitor Services, and Security staffs – without whom we could have done nothing.

Lockers in need of paint

Please remember that the Brian Piccolo Specialty School would like your help sprucing up their lockers with a fresh coat of paint this weekend. Located on Chicago's West Side, the school is an easy drive from almost anywhere. Donate a couple hours of your time this Saturday morning (October 24) – the students at Piccolo will really appreciate it! Call **Dina Zissimopoulos** at ext. 658 for directions and more information.

$$ FINANCE FORUM $$

As has been reported previously in the *Natural News*, the Finance Department is in the process of implementing a new financial software which will in some ways dramatically affect our processes and procedures for purchasing, accounting, issuing checks, and budgeting. The implementation process will take place over several months, with careful analysis of each component of our daily work.

One of the main responsibilities of the Finance Department is to serve the departments of the Museum. Therefore, we would appreciate any feedback and suggestions from you with respect to the processes we follow. While as a not-for-profit institution we are subject to various rules and standards which govern our accounting practices, our goal is to be efficient and accommodating to Museum staff. Please call **Dana Brink** at ext. 366 if you have comments.

****** REMINDER ******

As you all know, the Chicago Park District is a major benefactor of The Field Museum. However, we have not been as diligent as we need to be in acknowledging their support of our activities. Hence, this is a reminder that the following language should appear on all Field Museum print publications:

"The Field Museum salutes the people of Chicago for their long-standing, generous support of the Museum through the Chicago Park District."

Thank you.

Submitted by **Laura Gates**

NOTICE

The October 26 IMAX premiere of *T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous* at Navy Pier is *sold out*. Those of you attending, enjoy your ice cream; those of you who snoozed, better luck next time!

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Flynn and Simpson return from Madagascar dig

The Department of Geology's **John Flynn** and **Bill Simpson** recently returned from a month searching and digging in the Triassic of Southern Madagascar. They were joined by University of Chicago/Field Museum graduate students **Darin Croft** and **Gina Wesley**, as well as Dr. Andy Wyss and his grad student Robin Whatley from UC Santa Barbara. Robin formerly was employed in the Exhibits Department at The Field Museum, most recently as the lead designer of the *What Is An Animal?* exhibit. Three grad students from the University of Antananarivo also joined the crew. Rounding out the group were translators from both North America and Madagascar, two Malagasy drivers, and for the first half of the trip, **Anne Yoder**, research associate in the Department of Zoology. Two villagers, Mena and Dada, were also indispensable members of the team. With all this firepower, we moved a lot of rock and found a lot of interesting fossils on this, our third field season in Madagascar. Highlights continue to include many good "mammal-like reptiles," like a jaw and a palate with complete upper dentition of a new, small traversodontid cynodont. We also found some tantalizing and really tiny teeth and jaws (we don't even know what kind of animal this might be yet); the first undoubted dicynodont from this area; lots of very primitive dinosaur material; and several articulated skeletons of rhynchosaurs, an oddball archosaur reptile group. Lots of new outcrop was prospected, and there's plenty more to explore next year! All this new data will help nail down the age of the rocks in the area, clarify the geologic age ranges, and shed more light on the evolutionary history of several interesting and important groups like the cynodonts and prosauropod dinosaurs.

Tsavo Research Programme off to successful start

The Tsavo Research Programme – a research collaboration of The Field Museum and the Kenya Wildlife Service – was initiated this past summer with archaeological excavations in Southeast Kenya by **Chap Kusimba** (Anthropology) and his students. TRP has been in full gear since late September, with a team working in Kenya on research, a documentary film being produced by Kurtis Productions, and our institutional collaboration with the KWS. MacArthur Curator **Bruce Patterson** (Zoology) and Head Photographer **John Weinstein** (Academic Affairs) just returned. Bruce brought with him genetic samples from 98 lions distributed throughout Kenya. This material will fuel studies of manelessness and geographic variation in African lions undertaken with collaborators **Tom Gnoske** (Zoology) and **Sam Weru** (recent CTC intern, KWS). John brought back 100 rolls of film; most were taken in Tsavo National Park, documenting the park's landscapes, wildlife, and research activities, but a number of them document archaeological excavations at various points along Kenya's Swahili Coast. Bruce and Chap met with the KWS's new director, Richard Leakey, on his third day in office to discuss the Tsavo Initiative, a broad-based collaboration of FMNH and KWS on research, exhibits, and education. Chap, Tom, and **Julian Kerbis** (Zoology) continue the work of TRP in Kenya and Uganda; they are expected to return to Chicago next week.

Stanley returns from Tanzania

Bill Stanley (Collection Manager, Mammals) recently returned from a productive field season in Tanzania. While he was there Bill and colleagues from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) conducted a survey of the small mammals of Mt. Rungwe located just above the northern tip of Lake Nyasa. This is the first volcanic mountain the team has visited in their long term study of the small mammals that live in the forested habitats of Tanzanian mountains. The group sampled three different elevational sites in Rungwe Forest Reserve including the peak of the mountain and various craters along its slopes, and found both species richness and abundance of

the rodents to be the highest of any of the mountains the team has surveyed to date. Further surveys will help to determine how much influence the volcanic nature of the site had on these observations.

Bill also delivered specimens, curatorial supplies, and books to the Department of Zoology at UDSM and worked with students and faculty on various studies of Tanzanian small mammals. These projects include the recording of small mammal vocalizations to aid in future faunal surveys and the development of an identification key to mammals of the Eastern Arc Mountains.

Reminder: Field Museum web site discussions

Brad Loetel, the webmaster for the Museum, will lead discussions on the Museum's Intranet and web site as follows:

Where: Zoology classroom
Date: Tuesday, October 27 and Thursday, October 29
Schedule (both days): 1-2 p.m.: Intranet discussion
2-3 p.m.: External web site discussion

Any questions and comments can be directed to Brad via email, bloetel@fmnh.org or by dialing ext. 734.

Tuesday at Noon Seminar Series continues

Dr. Glenn Steele, Jr., spoke to us last Tuesday on "Strategies for the Future of the Biological Sciences at the University of Chicago." He began with an overview of how the Medical School, hospitals and associated biological faculties are structured and funded (together, they account for about 65% of the University's overall budget). With the intellectual eminence of the University's history as a background, by building new linkages between departments and by setting priorities collectively, Dr. Steele outlined plans for the future. Building a stronger partnership between The Field Museum and the University (through endowments) is part of that vision.

Next week's seminar topic is "Detecting Cryptic Species of Lichens and their Co-speciation with Cryptic Species of Symbiotic Green Algae" by Scott Kroken of the University of California, Berkeley. Please join us in the Zoology Classroom at 12 noon on Tuesday, October 27.

Submitted by **Bill Burger**

Special Events welcomes new staff member

Please join the Special Events Department in welcoming **Jo Anne Starykowicz** as the new Food Facilitator. Before joining the Museum, Jo Anne was food coordinator for four years at the law firm of Much Shelist. Jo Anne can be reached at ext. 411.

If you are planning a meeting at the Museum, call Jo Anne. She will help you work within your budget to arrange for appropriate food service, linens, and other rentals.

Important: ***Effective immediately, you must work through Joanne in order to get food service from Corner Bakery or McDonald's.***

Jo Anne will also be responsible for scheduling meetings in Conference Room 1 (ground floor near the switchboard) and Dining Rooms B, C, and D (near McDonald's).

We are all delighted to welcome Jo Anne to the Museum.

Submitted by **Carol Konieczny**

The flu season is coming – are you ready?

In order to help you get ready for the winter months ahead, we have invited a nurse from Mercy Works to provide flu shots for staff and volunteers. **The cost will be $10** payable when you receive the shot. Any person who would like to reduce the likelihood of catching the flu should get a flu shot. Contrary to what you might think, you cannot get the flu from a flu shot because it contains a *killed* virus.

October 28, 1998, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Dining Room C/D

Submitted by **Carol Kasarda**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the anticipated sell-out success of *The Art of the Motorcycle*, the following staff policies, procedures, and guidelines are being printed to ensure a smooth admission process.

❶ STAFF ADMISSION POLICY

Museum staff members are welcome to enter the temporary exhibit free of charge. However, due to the time sensitivity and expectancy of large crowds, staff are asked to give visitors priority in viewing. Check with the Visitor Services Representative to see if there is time availability and room for you to enter the exhibit.

We are encouraging all staff to take advantage of the *Staff Preview* being held on *Wednesday, November 4th, at 3 p.m.*, to view the exhibit.

❷ STAFF FAMILY ADMISSION POLICY

As a *benefit* to Museum staff, immediate family members are granted admission to the Museum free of charge. However, this benefit does *not* include temporary (separately ticketed) exhibits. This long-standing policy of family members and guests paying for admission to temporary exhibits (those exhibits not included in basic admission fee) will be strictly enforced. Therefore, family members of staff will be asked to pay the admission fees and abide by the time designations.

We encourage you to ask your family to view the exhibit during the annual Staff Holiday Fest on Wednesday, *December 16th*. The Motorcycle exhibit will be open *free of charge* for your invited guests *on this evening*.

❸ MUSEUM BUSINESS ASSOCIATE ADMISSION PROCEDURE

From time to time, departments request that a business associate or Museum donor be allowed to enter temporary exhibits. Vice Presidents will be given specially designed admission passes for distribution. The number of passes is limited and they are to be used for business purposes only. Use of the passes will be monitored.

❹ GENERAL PUBLIC ADMISSION

The Art of the Motorcycle will be a *timed-ticketed* exhibit. The general public may purchase advance tickets by calling 1-888-474-7900. Tickets may also be purchased through the admission cashiers (upon availability) for the same day only. Visitors will be asked to enter the exhibit at designated times printed on their tickets. Last admission into the exhibit will be one half hour before the museum closes.

❺ EXHIBIT HOURS

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day, except for Christmas and New Years Day (Museum is closed).
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day between December 26th through December 30th.
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. every Monday in January, February and March.

❻ COST OF ADMISSION

(Not included in general Museum admission fee)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:
$5 for adults
$4 for seniors
$3 for children ages 3-17 & students w/ID

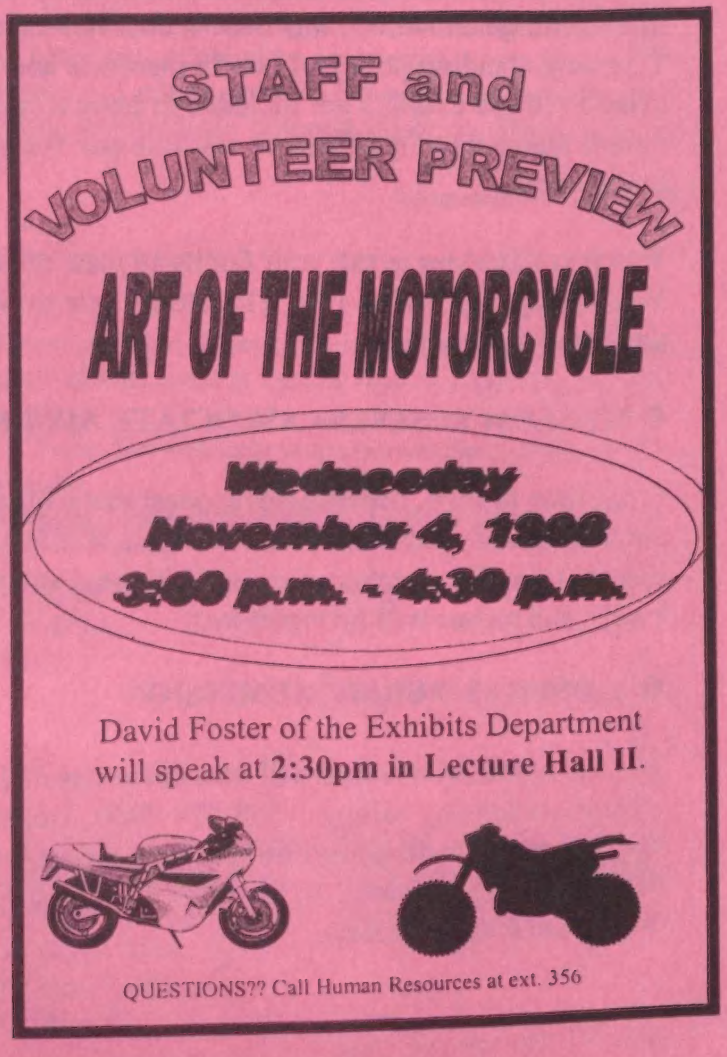
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday:
$6 for adults
$5 for seniors
$4 for children ages 3-17 & students w/ID

All visitors (with the exception of Museum members) must pay the General Admission in addition to the Motorcycle admission to enter the exhibit.

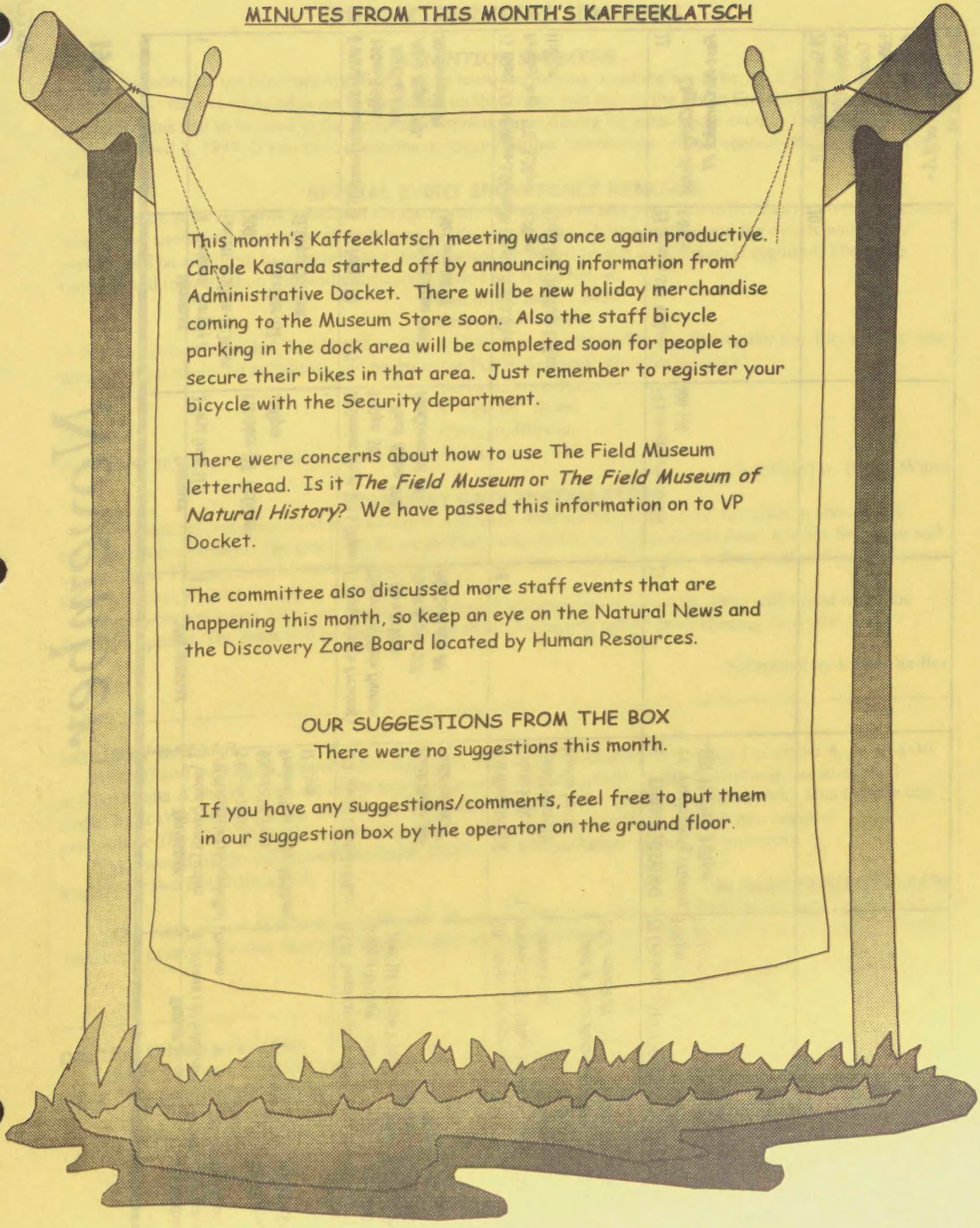
❼ VISITOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in the above mentioned policies and procedures. You will help us in assuring an enjoyable viewing of *The Art of the Motorcycle* for all our visitors and museum staff. Due to the capacity limitations and the nature of this exhibit, the admission policy guidelines will be strictly enforced.

If you have questions, please contact the appropriate department: Human Resources (ext. 356) Exhibits (ext. 240) or Visitor Services (ext. 386). Thank you!


STAFF and
VOLUNTEER PREVIEW
ART OF THE MOTORCYCLE
Wednesday
November 4, 1998
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
David Foster of the Exhibits Department will speak at 2:30pm in Lecture Hall II.
QUESTIONS?? Call Human Resources at ext. 356

MINUTES FROM THIS MONTH'S KAFFEEKLATSCH



This month's Kaffeeklatsch meeting was once again productive. Carole Kasarda started off by announcing information from Administrative Docket. There will be new holiday merchandise coming to the Museum Store soon. Also the staff bicycle parking in the dock area will be completed soon for people to secure their bikes in that area. Just remember to register your bicycle with the Security department.

There were concerns about how to use The Field Museum letterhead. Is it *The Field Museum* or *The Field Museum of Natural History*? We have passed this information on to VP Docket.

The committee also discussed more staff events that are happening this month, so keep an eye on the Natural News and the Discovery Zone Board located by Human Resources.

OUR SUGGESTIONS FROM THE BOX

There were no suggestions this month.

If you have any suggestions/comments, feel free to put them in our suggestion box by the operator on the ground floor.

10/22/98

1998

November

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Muldoon, Murphy & Faucett 6:30pm-11:30pm 200 KWebber-JST 12:00pm-3:00pm	3 First Data-SFH KWebber-JST 12:00pm-3:00pm	4	5 Special Events/LSanders SFH/Motorcycle Exh/Searle/Bal 5:00pm-10:00pm Blopez-SFH Press Preview/Motorcycles 10:00am-12:00pm	6 Women's Bd Gala-Entire Museum	7 WWhite-Humanities-Festi JST 9:00am-5:00pm Kweb Overnight Opening Day Activities SFH 11:00am-3:00pm
8 WWhite-Humanities Festival-JST 9:00am-5:00pm *BEARS-12:00PM* ***Pack Expo '98-McCormick Pl***	9 DuPont-SFH 700 ***Pack Expo '98-McCormick Pl***	10 Domino Amjet-SFH 6:00pm-9:00pm 500 ***Pack Expo '98-McCormick Pl***	11 SVandenbosch-President's Dinner-SFH/Whole Museum 5:30pm-8:30pm ***Pack Expo '98-McCormick Pl***	12 T-Special Events-SFH/Rice ***Pack Expo '98-McCormick Pl***	13 Ill. Restaurant Assoc-SFH 6:00pm-12:00am 600 SBell-JST 4:00pm-9:00pm	14 CGibbons Wedding-SFH 5:30- 1000 SBell-JST 8:00am-3:00pm Dinos & More-SFH 11:0am-3:00pm
15 SStott-SFH 10:00am-3:00pm Members Night-SFH 5:30pm-11:00pm	16 EKaplan-Bal 5:00pm-7:00pm SStott-SFH 10:00am-1:00pm	17	18	19 WWhite-SFH/JST 6:00am-5:00pm T-Special Events-SFH Motorola Set-up	20 KWebber-Overnight WWhite-SFH/JST 6:00am-3:00pm Motorola Set-up ***Paint & Deco Retailers-McCormick Pl***	21 Motorola-SFH 6:30pm-12:00am 400 LBrown-JST 11am-4pm ***Chg Chevy-Vette Fest-Paint & Deco Retailer McCormick Pl***
22 ***Chg Chevy-Vette Fest-McCormick Pl***	23 SRhoads-SFH 4:00pm-8:00pm	24 Kole Industries - SFH 400-500	25	26 **THANKSGIVING** Ed- Thanksgiving Activities –SFH 11:00am-3:00pm	27 Celebracion-SFH 11:00am-3:00pm ED-Overnight	28 Celebracion-SFH 11:00a 3:00pm ***Rad. Society of N. A.-McCormick Pl***
29 Siemens Medical-SFH 6:300pm-11:00pm 200 Celebracion-SFH 11:00am-3:00pm *BEARS-12:00PM* ***Rad. Society of N.A.-McCormick Pl***	30 ***Rad. Society of N.A.-McCormick Pl***					

PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATES

ATTENTION SMOKERS

On October 22, the Museum installed a white marquee for your smoking use. The 10' x 30' marquee is tucked under the overhang adjacent to the pillars on the terrace just east of the South Entrance doors. We encourage this tent to be used as the designated smoking area during the after-hours events. The dismantling will occur on April 1, 1999. If you have questions or require further information, please contact **Diane White** at ext. 345.

SPECIAL EVENT SNOW FENCE REMOVAL

There are several events scheduled for the remaining months of this year. Our office has received requests to remove the snow fence for some of these events. We have discussed the schedule and the events with the vendor, and he is willing to accommodate the Museum; however, proper notification is required. The fence removal and reinstallation cost and notification period are listed below:

Half of the fence: $450
Entire fence: $800

A five-day notice is needed; less than five days will incur an additional $100 to the regular fee. Please have your check request made out as follows and return to the Public Services office for delivery:

Service Fence, Inc.
9 West 64th Street
Chicago, Illinois

If you have any questions, please contact **Diane White** at ext. 345.

Submitted by **Diane White**

STAIRWAY GATE INSTALLATION

Two gates are being installed in Stairway 6 beginning Wednesday, October 21. Installation should take approximately two days. The gates will be located between the lower level and first floor, and the first floor and second floor. The gates are being installed to deter visitors from exiting the store at that point and gaining access to the Museum without paying an admission fee.

Employees are asked not to use this stairway during Museum hours, since an alarm will sound when the doors are opened. The gates will be disarmed after store closing and before store opening each day.

Submitted by **Laura Sadler**

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

All staff and volunteers are invited to this year's HOLIDAY BAZAAR on Friday, December 4, 11:30-1:30 in Classrooms A and B. Some items for sale in past years include jewelry, table decorations, cookies, shell crafts, fruitcakes, embroideries, tree ornaments, plants, natural history photos, and beadwork. Also for sale this year will be *The Ninth Annual Field Museum Staff and Volunteers Cookbook* with all new recipes!

If you would like to sell homemade items, please call **Elaine Zeiger** at ext. 338 to reserve a table – or two can share a table.

PLEASE SEND RECIPES!

Our ninth annual cookbook is under way. Please send recipes via e-mail (filename ending with ".doc"), or hard copy or on disk either interoffice mail or drop off at Geology office in the mailbox labeled "zeiger." hanks!

Submitted by **Elaine Zeiger**

Drafting tables available

Exhibits has two drafting tables available for use in the Museum. We need them moved out of our area ASAP. If you are interested please call **Jessica Newman** at ext. 329.

Submitted by **Martina Hough**

Thanks to all who helped with Swedish Folk Art exhibit

Swedish Folk Art: All Tradition is Change opened to the public Saturday, October 17. Through the hard work and enthusiasm of several staff members, it promises to be a great success.

Many, many thanks are in order for **Eric Lindveit, Dave Layman,** and **Lori Walsh**, whose dedication to the project was without equal. Other members of the Exhibits Department, including **Abe Bloom, Peter DeRiemer, Nel Fetherling, Steve Furnett, Bruce Heimbuch, Rick Hope, Mike Paha, John Petreikis** and **Trigg Waller** committed their skill to ensure a fantastic installation.

Special thanks also goes to the Conservation Department, including **Ruth Andris, Carole Havlik, Holly Lundberg** and **Christine Thede**, whose precise and patient work cannot be rivaled. The hard work of **Carolyn Byrne** (Public Relations), **Sue Stott** (Education) and **Mary Ann Bloom** (Education) was also wonderful.

Thanks to one and all for a wonderful project and a beautiful installation!

Submitted by **Mia Schillace**

Field Museum's appeal bridges language barrier

"Best wishes from FINLAND! I just visited your museum, but I had only one hour time!! Our choir had a concert tour in America for two weeks, but at the last day in chicago we found our way to your museum (and it was four o clock already...) So we did only see how wonderful your museum was, we hadn`t time to see the objects. (Only couple of them). I was very sad, that we hadn´t one more day. I would have been visited again the museum!!! I teach history here in finland to 11 and 12 years old children. I only wonder if it would be possible to order some pictures or catalog about the objects of the Field Museum?? There seemed to be so much interesting things ! I haven't been visited as interesting place ever before!!! And you are so long way from Finland, so I think, that I won't have possibility to visit you again in this life! So if there are books, cards, pictures, paintings, and it would be possible to order those things I would Be MORE than happy to get to know the how...

'Falled in love to your museum'."

Submitted by **Nina Cummings**

We're still doin' it!

Over 20 years of research has shown that aerobic exercise is one of the best things you can do for your health and well being. Aerobics conditions your heart and lungs, helps you use oxygen more efficiently, and help control weight and reduce stress. So, for a little exercise, weight control and stress reduction, not to mention Museum camaraderie, join us for aerobics class every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Location varies – check the ground floor Discovery Zone bulletin board near Human Resources.

Submitted by **Laurie Sanders**

FOR SALE

One dinosaur costume. Become the owner of T.C. (Terribly Cute) Triceratops. This dinosaur costume comes with removable head, one piece suit, boots and gloves. Great for special events and family get together. $200 or best offer. Contact **Peter Laraba** at ext. 587.

The Campaign Office thanks all who helped make the October 21 Royal Society reception for **Peter Crane** a big success. It would not have run so smoothly without the generosity of countless individuals who helped in all aspects from mailing the invitations to assembling gift bags.

Also, in our last submission to the *Natural News*, we neglected to thank **Elree Smith** in External Affairs for her help in hand-addressing so many invitations.

We sincerely appreciate your help as we honor and congratulate Peter Crane.

Submitted by **Charles Katzenmeyer**